

2026 ACVIM LARGE ANIMAL INTERNAL MEDICINE SPECIALTY EXAMINATION

Candidate Preparation Information

This information below is provided to help prepare for the Specialty Examination in Large Animal Internal Medicine. Information pertaining to the exam schedule, administration, use of translational dictionaries, and special accommodation requests can be located on the LAIM Candidate landing page on the ACVIM website:

<https://www.acvim.org/resources-for/candidates/laim>

Exam Structure and Scoring

The Specialty Examination in Large Animal Internal Medicine consists of one section consisting of 200 single-response multiple-choice items. The single section exam is broken into two parts (with an optional 30-minute break between parts), where domain coverage is evenly distributed across both parts.

There will be 2 scenarios in part one of the LAIM Exam and 3 scenarios in part two of the LAIM Exam. Scenarios will be worth a total of 20 points. The number of scenarios is subject to change if any items are flagged for removal during the final development phase of the exam.

The pass point for the Large Animal Internal Medicine Specialty Examination is determined by a standard setting process where LAIM Diplomates rate the examination based on the definition of the minimal level of competence or a statistical procedure called equating which is used to adjust for any differences in the level of difficulty across examination forms. The pass point is approved by the ACVIM Certification Council.

ACVIM has adopted a standardized scoring range for all certification exams. This change ensures greater consistency and transparency in score reporting.

For more information on scaled scoring, visit [ACVIM Exam Scaled Scoring Information](#)

NOTE: The Large Animal Internal Medicine Specialty Examination is written in concordance with USA (USDA/APHIS) regulations regarding the extra label use of drugs and legal use of antimicrobials. Candidates need to know drugs illegal for use and legal regulations surrounding common antimicrobials used in food producing animals in the US. The following website may prove useful in reviewing pertinent US regulations regarding drug use in food animals:

<http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/get-cfr.cgi?TITLE=21&PART=530&SECTION=41&TYPE=TEXT>

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